

TRAVEL 9-1

~~SECRET~~

23 August 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Research and Reports

FROM:

25X1A9a
25X1X7

SUBJECT:

Report on Overseas TDY [REDACTED]
and Stockholm from 1 July to 15 August 1960

1. Purpose of Travel

a. The primary purpose of the trip was to attend the meetings of the International Geographical Union (IGU) in Stockholm, Sweden, from 6 to 13 August, as a member of the United States delegation to the IGU.

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2. Activities, Findings, and Conclusions

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SUBJECT: Report on Overseas TDY to [REDACTED]
Stockholm from 1 July to 15 August 1960

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]


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SUBJECT: Report on Overseas TDY to [REDACTED]
Stockholm from 1 July to 15 August 1960

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S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1X7

SUBJECT: Report on Overseas TDY to [REDACTED]
Stockholm from 1 July to 15 August 1960

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c. [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Report on Overseas TDY to [REDACTED]
Stockholm from 1 July to 15 August 1960

d. Stockholm

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In Stockholm, [REDACTED]
I attended many sessions where papers by Russians were given and subsequently discussed. I was especially interested in the research methodology being utilized by the Russians, which could be evidenced by the character and quality of their presentations. It was a real disappointment to find that many of the Russian papers which had been scheduled were cancelled at the last minute, throwing the planned program into a state of confusion and upsetting the steady progress of many of the sessions. Of those Russian papers given, most could be characterized as being very general in nature, principally talking about the accomplishments that had been made by the USSR usually in very general terms and without specific data to back up their conclusions. On several occasions, the presentations were questioned by others, asking for specific data in relation to the methodology used or for a clarification or presentation of facts which led to the very general conclusions which had been given. On most of these occasions, the author of the paper was rather reluctant to be more specific and, after a consultation between the Russians present, the excuse was usually given that this was neither the time nor the appropriate place to either question the validity of Soviet statistics or to discuss the details of data or methodology used to arrive at conclusions.

Many foreign geographers were contacted and there was opportunity to discuss their work, new developments and trends in geographic research, and the organization of geographic work in Geography Departments in Universities and in Government institutions.

East Germany was admitted to the Union in the first general assembly, probably because West Germany did not take a definite stand against their admittance and, as many think, because the West Germans wanted Karl Troll to be the next president of the IGU, which all added up to a "deal" having been made. Troll was elected President and Prof. Hans Boesch of Zurich will continue for another four years as Secretary.

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Stockholm from 1 July to [REDACTED]

The meetings were well organized and were certainly a credit to the Scandinavian geographers who devoted much time and effort to make them a productive international affair. The field trips were excellent. I took two during the Conference period, one to Uppsala and one in the archipelago around Stockholm. Both of them enabled me to get a much better appreciation of the geographic features of the area, as well as the economic and political characteristics of Sweden.

c. Other Travel in Europe

My remaining time in Europe was spent in a rather comprehensive tour of European countries that I had not had an opportunity to visit before, and I feel that this private tour by automobile enabled me to really get a first-hand view of not only the physical but also the cultural and economic geography of Switzerland, Austria, [REDACTED] Denmark, Holland and Belgium. I feel that this experience will be invaluable in many indirect applications to my responsibilities in geographic work in intelligence. 25X1X7

3. Problems and Difficulties

None.

4. Commitments Made

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As a result of discussions with officials of the [REDACTED] 25X1A6a
[REDACTED] I informally committed myself to utilize the guidance proffered by them in planning and programming TDY activities in support of topographic map procurement efforts.

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5. Recommendations

In communications to the field, I would recommend that the purposes of TDY consultations with specific individuals and offices be detailed as completely as possible in order to give them sufficient guidance for making arrangements and to dispel any hesitancy that they may have regarding the purpose and validity of the trip.

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Chief, Geographic Research

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